

Appl. No. 10/634,161  
Response dated Apr 8, 2004  
Reply to Office Action dated January 8, 2004

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1        1. (Currently amended) A vacuum tank assembly comprising:  
2              a vacuum tank having a substantially hollow interior and an exterior having top, bottom,  
3              and front surfaces;  
4              a dip tube assembly mounted in said a first opening in a position such that sewage in said  
5              tank may be readily withdrawn therefrom adjacent said bottom surface thereof, and constructed  
6              to readily connect to a vacuum pump; and  
7              wherein said dip tube assembly comprises an adaptor and an evacuator component, said  
8              adaptor connecting said evacuator component to an outlet conduit or vacuum pump, and said  
9              evacuator component comprising a substantially tubular evacuation portion having a substantially  
10              flat open bottom closely overlying said tank bottom surface in said tank interior, and  
11              wherein said evacuator component has at least one radially extending locator tab; and  
12              further comprising at least one cut out in said tank front surface adjacent said first opening  
13              cooperating with said tab to properly orient said evacuator component in said tank.
- 2        2. (Canceled)
- 3        3. (Currently amended) An assembly as recited in claim 2 claim 1 wherein said locator  
tab has a substantially polygonal cross-section and is removably mounted to said evacuator  
component.
- 4        4. (New) A vacuum tank assembly comprising:  
2              a vacuum tank having a substantially hollow interior and an exterior having top, bottom,  
3              and front surfaces;  
4              at least one opening provided in the front surface of the tank; and  
5              an evacuator component that extends through the at least one opening,

6           wherein the evacuator component includes a substantially straight tubular portion  
7   extending transversely with respect to the front surface of the tank, the substantially straight  
8   tubular portion having an open bottom portion closely overlying the bottom surface in the tank  
9   interior.

1           5. (New) The vacuum tank assembly of claim 4, wherein the evacuator component  
2   further comprises a locating flange that corresponds with the at least one opening.

1           6. (New) The vacuum tank assembly of claim 5, wherein the locating flange includes  
2   a locating tab that corresponds with a cut out in the front surface of the tank to properly position  
3   the open bottom portion with respect to the bottom surface in the tank interior.

1           7. (New) The vacuum tank assembly of claim 4, wherein the substantially straight  
2   tubular portion includes a closed end portion.

1           8. (New) The vacuum tank assembly of claim 4, wherein the evacuator component  
2   further comprises a substantially closed annulus located between a locating flange and the  
3   substantially straight tubular portion, the annulus having an open interior communicating with  
4   the open bottom portion.

1           9. (New) The vacuum tank assembly of claim 4, further comprising an adapter to couple  
2   the evacuator component to an outlet conduit or vacuum pump.